

31st August 1959]

\* 24 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) whether it was decided in the National Development Council meeting held during April 1959 that each State should take appropriate steps to control the retail price of rice; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) The National Development Council expressed the view that normally control of wholesale trade by the State might suffice for keeping the retail prices under control. They however, agreed that if any State Government thought it desirable to control retail prices, they might take necessary action.

(b) The need for fixing statutory retail price for rice has not yet been considered.

\* 25 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state whether the Government have suggested during the National Development Council meeting held during April 1959 for setting up of a Finance Corporation for running State Trading in rice?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : This Government suggested the setting up of a State Trading Foodgrains Corporation in each State, while offering remarks on the draft scheme of State Trading in Foodgrains, forwarded by the Government of India. The draft scheme and the remarks of the various State Governments thereon was considered at the meeting of the National Development Council held during April 1959.

\* 26 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) whether the working group constituted by the Government of India for State Trading has recommended the maintenance of price levels which are fair to consumer and producer as the primary objective of State trading in foodgrains;

(b) whether the Government have examined this recommendation; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government on the same?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations are still under examination by the Government of India.

(c) Does not arise in view of answer to clause (b) above.

\* 27 Q.—SRI P. G. MANICKAM AND SRI A. RASHEED : கனம் உள்விவகார அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் தயவுசெய்து பதிலளிப்பாரா—

(அ) சென்னை ராஜ்யத்துக்கு 1958-59, 1959-60-ம் வருடங்களில் எத்தனை டன் அரிசி சப்ளை செய்யப்படவேண்டுமென்று சென்னை சர்க்கார் மத்திய சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரிவித்தனர்?

(ஆ) மேற்கண்ட ஒவ்வொரு வருடமும் எத்தனை டன் அரிசி மத்திய சர்க்காரால் சப்ளை செய்யப்பட்டது?

[31st August 1959]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (a) & (b) No request was made to the Government of India for supplying rice in 1958. In March 1959 the Government of India were requested to procure and supply 10,000 tons of Nellore rice in exchange for an equal quantity from the stocks procured by this Government in this State. The Union Government supplied 2,000 tons in response to this request.

Subsequently, the Government of India have agreed to allot up to one lakh tons of rice for this year to compensate for the heavy movements taking place from this State of Kerala. Out of this, they have allotted 15,000 tons in August 1959.

\* 28 Q.—SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state the quantity of (i) rice and (ii) paddy got through the Centre after May 1959 for our State and their respective prices?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: In April last, the Government of India allotted 2,000 tons of Nellore rice from Andhra Pradesh. They charged Rs. 21.50 per maund f.o.r. Madras in respect of 1,000 tons and Rs. 23 per maund f.o.r. Madras in respect of the remaining 1,000 tons.

In August 1959, the Government of India have made a further allotment of 15,000 tons of raw rice comprising 4,000 tons of Andhra rice and 11,000 tons of Burma rice. The prices of these 15,000 tons have not yet been communicated.

\* 29 Q.—SRI K. VINAYAKAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state what are the concessions shown to the millers of paddy so as to encourage import of paddy into our State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: In order to encourage the import of paddy into this State, the Government have totally exempted the imported paddy as well as the rice obtained from it from the scope of procurement in this State. The Government have also allowed an overall allowance of 39 nP. per maund in addition to actual railway freight over and above the ceiling rates fixed for paddy in the Andhra price notification to the paddy merchants in this State who import paddy from Andhra and sell it as paddy.

\* 30 Q.—SRI A. A. RASHEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state whether the Government have received any protest from the merchants regarding the frequent change of the conditions governing the import of paddy from places outside the State and also the sale of paddy?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: No, Sir.

*Tanjore rice for Madras*

\* 30-A Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) whether steps have been taken to bring Tanjore rice for Madras in view of the short supply of Nellore rice; and